

Sources of Information

CHILD	
<p style="text-align: center;">Child Interviews</p> <p><i>(Please note that it is not your role as a CASA advocate to interview a child about allegations of abuse/neglect. Many children have been interviewed many times and additional interviews may be harmful to the child and to any potential criminal prosecution.)</i></p> <p>Type of Information/Assistance If the Child is verbal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of the family situation • Information about relationships (parents, families, foster families) • Wishes and desires for future • Challenges or areas in need of help • Likes/Dislikes • Information regarding visits with parents, siblings, other family • Other: _____ <p>Best way to Contact Source:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Child Observations</p> <p><i>(Visits with parents, visits with siblings, child in current setting, child at school or daycare, etc.)</i></p> <p>Type of Information to Observe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affect • Moods, mood changes • Developmental stages • Verbal ability • Relationships, interactions with others • Intellectual ability • Other _____ <p>Best way to Contact Source:</p>

PARENTS & FAMILY	
<p style="text-align: center;">Parents</p> <p><i>(When parents are represented by an attorney, follow program protocol before speaking with the parents.)</i></p> <p>Type of Information to Gather</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their version of the events stated on the petition • Omissions or extenuating circumstances they feel are important • Their child's developmental milestones, joys, fears, etc. • Specific information about the child's behavior related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Visitation with parents and siblings ▪ Adjustments in school ▪ Behavior problems and strengths ▪ Medical concerns • Adjustment to separation/loss • Their background • Other: _____ <p>Best way to Contact Source:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Family</p> <p>Type of information to Gather</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What they've seen happening as it relates to the life of the child • Potential resources for the child and family • Other _____ <p>Best way to Contact Source:</p>

Sources of Information (Continued)

TRIBE

(Applies only if you are working with an Indian child as defined by the Indian Child Welfare Act)

Type of Information/Assistance

- Potential service resources
- Tribal enrollment issues
- Potential transfer of jurisdiction
- Information regarding whether anyone is going to appear in court for the tribe and whether the tribe is going to formally intervene, send a representative, or make a written recommendation; information regarding recommendations
- Potential cultural responses to the current family problem
- Extended family or members of the tribe who may be a potential placement alternative for the Indian child
- Other: _____

Best way to contact source:

PROFESSIONALS

DHS Caseworkers

Type of Information/Assistance

- Where the child is placed
- Documentation, case record
- Case plan within 30 days of placement
- Names, addresses and phone numbers of other professionals on the case
- Contact information for foster parents, parents, etc.
- Response to your observations
- Community or educational resources
- Progress of case plan
- Safety issues, if any
- Medical status of child
- Educational status of child
- Anything else the Advocate should know
- Other: _____

Best way to Contact Source:

Child's Teacher or Childcare Provider

Type of information/Assistance

- Child's behavior at school
- Educational problems or delays, strengths
- Changes in behavior
- Child's appearance
- Peer relationships
- Grades
- Parental involvement
- Likes/Dislikes
- Attendance prior to/post removal
- School nurse reports
- School counselor reports
- Other: _____

Best way to Contact Source:

Legal Personnel

Type of Information/Assistance

- Criminal records, other court records
- Other: _____

Best way to Contact Source:

County Attorney

Type of Information/Assistance

- Progress Report
- Other: _____

Best way to Contact Source:

Sources of Information (Continued)

PROFESSIONALS (cont.)	
<p style="text-align: center;">GAL/Attorney for the child</p> <p>Type of Information/Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistance with legalities of the case Assistance with complex legal situations particular to the case Assistance in providing pre-trial information Subpoenas of witnesses Other: _____ <p>Best way to Contact Source:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Attorneys for the Parents</p> <p>Type of Information/Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrangements to talk with his/her clients Anything the advocate should know about the client Other: _____ <p>Best way to Contact Source:</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Medical Personnel</p> <p>Type of Information/Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child's medical conditions related to the abuse and/or neglect Past medical history, medical records Follow-up services that may be required to address medical conditions resulting from abuse or neglect A particular medical condition that should come to the attention of the caseworker, foster parents, courts, etc. Contact with parent(s), if any Other: _____ <p>Best way to Contact Source:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Psychological/Psychiatric Professionals</p> <p>Type of Information/Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature of referral information they received How they came to a particular conclusion What the diagnosis means in practical terms and how the diagnosis is measured Discrepancies in opinion Possible counseling or therapeutic models being recommended for the child, parents, family, etc. Other: _____ <p>Best way to Contact Source:</p>
Foster Parents, Placement Workers or Independent Living Coordinator	
<p>Type of Information/Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific information about the child's daily life and about the child's behavior related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Visits with parents and siblings ➤ Adjustments in school ➤ Behavior problems/strengths ➤ Medical concerns ➤ Contacts made by parents through letters, phone calls, etc ➤ Child's daily functioning ➤ Adjustments to separation/loss Other: _____ <p>Best way to contact source:</p>	